

MEMORANDUM – DENVER COMMISSION ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS

TO:	Denver City Council
FROM:	Office of Boards & Commissions
DATE:	7/16/25
PURPOSE:	Appointments and Reappointments for Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs

Purpose of Commission:

The Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs (DCCA) was established in 1991 to support the Mayor and act as an advisory board for Denver Arts & Venues. The DCCA is comprised of dynamic and accomplished Denver leaders who are appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council. The DCCA and DAV staff meet on the first Tuesday of each month at various cultural organizations across the city.

Appointment Process:

The Mayor appoints up to 24 members and City Council confirms appointment for 3 year terms, with a 2 term limit.

Term: 9/1/2025-8/31/2028 or until a successor is duly appointed.

Recommended Appointment Candidates



Boris Basishvili (He/Him)
(Male, Caucasian – Euro Asian)

At the age of fifteen, Boris began his journey in the world of theater as an actor at the State Pantomime Theatre in Georgia. Over a span of fifteen years, he developed his skills and gained extensive experience in acting, teaching, directing and immersing himself in the craft. During this period, he pursued formal training by enrolling at the Theatre University, where he earned a BA degree in acting. Seeking to deepen his understanding of ensemble-based theater, he embarked on an enriching educational adventure at Dell’Arte International School of Physical Theatre. Here, he earned a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree in ensemble theater-making, a transformative period that broadened his perspectives and elevated his creative practice.



Dr. tara jae (They/Them)
(Non-binary,
African/American)

Dr. tara jae is a visionary storyteller and cultural curator with a deep passion for mental health and wellness within our QTBIPOC community. With an extensive background in the arts, Dr. jae has made a lasting impact through powerful, transformative narratives that uplift, educate, and inspire. An award winning creator, Dr. tara uses the medium of storytelling to address the intersection of identity, culture, and healing. Their work is rooted in a commitment to fostering spaces where individuals can thrive and experience abundance, peace, and personal growth. As an advocate for mental health, Dr. tara focuses on creating resources and experiences that support our QTBIPOC community on their healing journeys, empowering them to navigate challenges and embrace their full potential. Driven by a belief that everyone deserves to heal, grow, and live authentically, Dr. tara continues to push the boundaries of creativity to impact lives and promote holistic wellness.



Stewart Tucker Lundy
(He/Him)
(Male, African/American,
Person with disability)

Stewart is a Denver-based producer, director, and disability rights consultant with over four decades of lived experience as a quadriplegic. He has co-produced national campaigns, like a Jansport piece on accessible design, and directed impact-driven content such as **Guided by Humanities**, a documentary on adaptive yoga. He serves as Vice President of Rocky Mountain Human Services and sits on the boards of XR Inclusive and the Denver Public Art Committee, where he advocates for inclusive, tactile, and accessible design. He has spent years helping cities, nonprofits, and private companies rethink what access looks like-from blueprint to execution. He has served as a commissioner on the Commission for People with Disabilities, and the Commission for African Americans which has shaped how he approaches systems change-with clarity, cultural fluency, and just enough bite to keep folks honest. Access isn't an afterthought. It's the foundation. And he's here to make sure that truth becomes standard-not exception.



Matthew Tebo (He/Him)
(Male, Caucasian)

Matt is a product management professional who leads high impact, high margin, and high visibility programs and experiences. These include launching a variety of workforce development efforts and standing up new social enterprises at the Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools, Western Governors University, and Impact On Education. Matt holds a bachelor's in fine arts from CU Boulder and an MBA in Social Enterprise at Nebraska Wesleyan University. He is enjoying being back in CO with his wife and two young sons after several years away.

Reappointment Candidate



Joshua Margolin (He/Him)
(Male, Two or more races,
Hispanic or Latino Origin,
Yaqui)

Joshua Margolin (he/him/his) is an Assistant Director of Admissions, Recruitment, and Outreach at the Community College of Denver (CCD). His main focus is the strategic oversight of CCD's new High School Diploma Program, which is meant to give adult learners an accessible, low-cost option to earn a high school diploma. Aside from volunteering, he enjoys reading, podcasts, writing and reciting slam poetry, riding his bicycle, rollerblading (inline), indoor bouldering, video games, Jiu-Jitsu, improv, and ancient mythology.